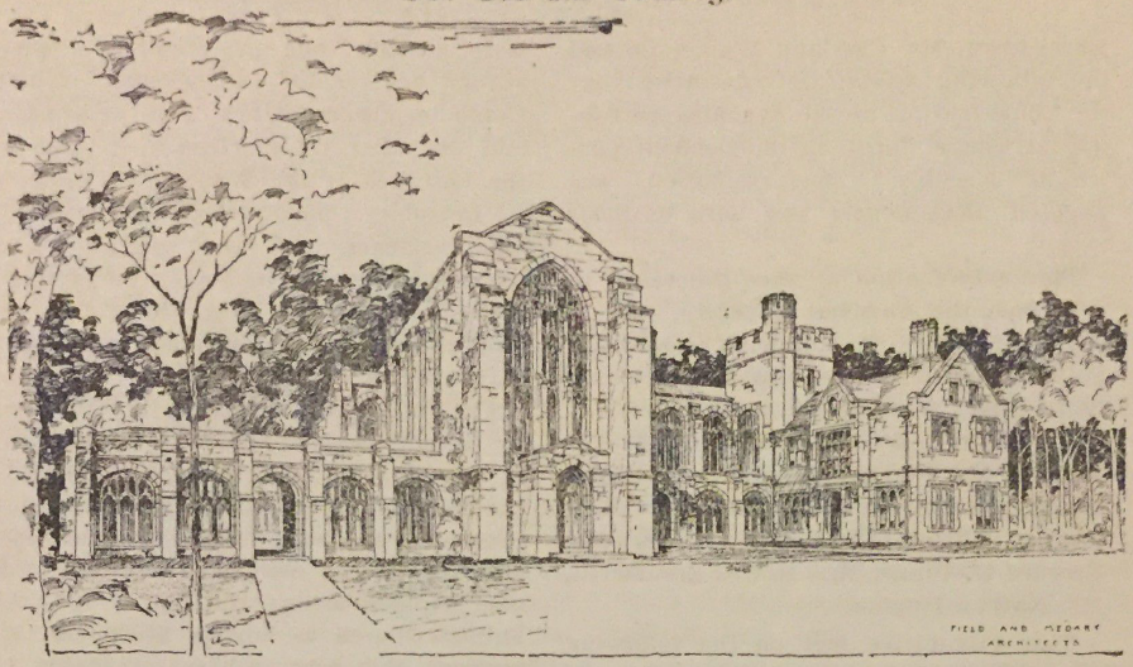
"For God and Country."



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory.

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

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VOL. III. AUGUST 15, 1910 NO. 5

A Declaration of Independence.

The congregation of the Washington Memorial Chapel held its most important meeting on Thursday evening, July 21, 1910. The Rev. W. Herbert Burk presided and stated that the meeting had been called to consider the question of the advisability of forming an independent parish. He said there was a feeling on the part of some of the vestrymen of All Saints' Church that its work would prosper better if its rector were relieved of the care of the Valley Forge Mission. This was not the feeling of the congregation, which at the inception of the work had passed a resolution requesting the rector to give a part of his time to the establishment of the Mission, and every Easter Monday since has passed a similar resolution, but since the opinion had been expressed by representatives of All Saints' Church it ought to be considered by the members of the Mission.

After a careful consideration of the subject, during which it was stated that the only difficulty in the way was the raising of the money to take the place of $675 now given by the Convocation of

Norristown, Mr. Clayland Walker offered the following resolution: "Resolved, that the congregation of the Washington Memorial Chapel form an independent parish, if possible." The resolution was adopted unanimously and with enthusiasm.

The congregation at once proceeded to overcome the financial difficulty, and to this end, elected the following to serve as a Committee of Ways and Means to solicit pledges for the next three years:

Mr. Charles Wells Walker, Mr. Colket Walker, Mr. Clayland Walker, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. George C. Yarrow, Mr. William C. Wilson, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Edward H. Binns, Mrs. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Nathan Hughes.

This Committee met on the following Tuesday evening at the residence of Mr. Charles Wells Walker and planned its work. Each member of the Committee was given a complete list of the members of the Mission.

The second meeting of the congregation was held on Thursday evening, August 11. The Rev. Mr. Burk again presided and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read by Mr. Charles Wells Walker, the Secretary, the Committee made its report. While it had been unable to do all the work it had planned it was able to report that the $1800, estimated as the sum required to meet the expenses of the parish for each year, had been pledged. As this was the minimum estimate the committee desired to be permitted to continue its canvass.

The report was received with great enthusiasm, and a resolution adopted expressing the congregation's appreciation of the work of the committee. The committee was instructed to draw up the formal appeal to the Bishop of the Diocese for the canonical consent to the formation of the parish, and the form of charter was discussed.

Mr Frank Quigg called the attention of the congregation to the need of a residence for the rector. He said two plans were possible, one the erection of temporary quarters at the Chapel, which would be unsatisfactory and expensive, and the other the erection of a lodge at the entrance of the Washington Memorial Cemetery. This would be a comfortable residence, and every cent spent on its erection would be for a permanent memorial structure. He, therefore, offered a resolution authorizing the erection of the lodge.

The latter plan was heartily endorsed by the members of the congregation, and it was resolved to proceed at once with the erection of the lodge, the congregation to assume a debt of not more than $6000. To expedite the work a resolution was also adopted asking the Vestry of All Saints' Church to borrow $1000 for this purpose, this debt to be assumed by the Washington Memorial Chapel upon the incorporation of the parish. Monday, August 15, was set as the date for beginning the work. The congregation was greatly encouraged in this undertakipng by the announcement made by Mr. Burk that Mr. William E. Montague, of Norristown, had offered to give one hundred dollars toward the erection of a residence for the rector of the new parish.

Valley Forge Camp Ground.

The Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker has published a most interesting broadside which is an important contribution to the history of Valley Forge. The copy sent to the Valley Forge Museum of American History will be framed for the information of visitors. The broadside is as follows:

"Valley Forge Camp Ground

The earliest efforts for the preservation of the Camp Ground, and the earliest suggestion of the Park, were made by

DR. ISAAC ANDERSON PENNYPACKER,

of Phoenixville, Pa.; born July 9th, 1812; died February 13th, 1856; first Burgess of Phoenixville, Professor of Theory and

Practice in the Philadelphia College of Medicine, and grandson of Lieutenant Isaac Anderson, who carried dispatches from the camp for Washington.

These efforts began in 1842, and were continued for several years. He brought Daniel Webster, William H. Seward, Neal Dow and other distinguished men to view the entrenchments He corresponded upon the subject with Henry Clay and John F. Watson, the annalist. He wrote, September 6, 1842, to the Village Record, at West Chester:

'Of such a place—of this place, it is almost infamy to do irreverence. It should have been preserved unchanged, unmolested by foot or hand; it should have been undisturbed as the army abandoned it and been handed on to posterity in the garb of 1777 and '78. What now remains should be consecrated to Liberty. Let the relics yet there be preserved, altered as time and interest may have effected, with the forest trees springing from amid the soldiers' hearthstones, with the entrenchments worn away by time, and the mouldering logs of the tents, and the crumbling dust of the remains of the departed votaries of Liberty who were there buried—we say still let an effort be made to procure and preserve the land, or a portion of it containing the best relics, and hand it on with pure purpose to coming generations.'

He wrote, December 4, 1843, to the Pottstown Tariffite:

'Let us show to our children that we loved and admired our honored ancestry. We hope, we trust that we may. Can we not—cannot Philadelphia and the eastern end of Pennsylvania, upon Mount Joy, at Valley Forge, exhibit our gratitude by the erection of a monument of taste and beauty? If we will, we can. Our children's children and the sons of this fair land would about it assemble, and, gazing toward its summit in motionless attitude, would resolve to sustain the principles of the Government. It would instil the principles of virtue, of gratitude and of patriotism. Patriotism has prompted the execution of monuments in various quarters of the country, and one is required to exhibit our gratitude and patriotism at that memorable encampment at Valley Forge.'

He wrote again to the Village Record, July 9, 1845:

'The scenes which here occurred can scarcely find a parallel in history. It was the crisis on which hung the fate of the country. Such it was considered by the men of that day. A nation's gratitude should esteem the place sacred, and a suitable testimonial should be commanded to rise upon Mount Joy to commemorate the events connected with the history of our country.'

Adam Slemmer wrote to him, March 29, 1844:

'I desire to remind you that the subject of a monument at Valley Forge is not forgotten by me, and I have strong hopes of accomplishing something the coming summer.'

John F. Watson wrote to him, April 16, 1846:

'A circumstance occurred here to-day which reminded me of monuments for the Revolutionary dead, and in which you showed an interest for Valley Forge.' "

Tea Room.

The Tea Room is being well patronized by visitors to Valley Forge and is proving pleasing and restful to its patrons as well as a financial aid to the Guild and it is hoped that all interested in the Chapel will continue to advertise it among their friends, and, as in the past, give it their generous support.

NEEDS OF THE TEA ROOM.

Individual tea pots, paper napkins, tea spoons, trays (nickel), water pitcher, ice pick, paper finger bowl doilies, bread knife.

Washington Memorial Chapel.

Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE.
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.
Mr. Leslie Jefferis,
Treasurer of the Building Fund,
Bridgeport, Pa.
William Rumford, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Stewart Fund Hall

Sundays.

10.00 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

11.00 A. M. Service and Sermon.

Calendar.

AUGUST.

21. Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
24. St. Bartholomew.
28. Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

SEPTEMBER.

4. Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
7. 2.30 p. m., Annual Meeting of the Washington Chapel Guild and Election of Officers.
11. Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity. 10.30 a. m., Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

The Rev. Henry M. Kieffer, D. D., is assisting the Rev. Mr. Burk in the work of the Mission, taking charge of the Sunday school and services at King-of-Prussia. Dr. Kieffer is making warm friends among our workers.

Lafayette and Washington's Marquee.

The following account of the reception of Lafayette in Alexandria on Saturday, October 16, 1824, appeared in the "Alexandria Gazette" on the 19th:

"Saturday was a beautiful day—the air was mild, and the slight fall of rain the day before had laid the dust. At an early hour the streets assumed an appearance of activity. The gathering of troops, the sound of the martial music, the delighted children, all gave an appearance of preparation highly pleasing, for it was that of joy and gratitude.

"Between 12 and 1 o'clock, General La Fayette entered the line from the Potomac bridge, under a salute of artillery from Capt. Williams's Company. Here he was met by General Walter Jones and suite, who addressed the General in a neat and handsome manner. The General then entered a splendid barouche, drawn by four fine grays, with postilions dressed in white, with blue sashes, and was thus escorted by Capt. Andrews's company of cavalry, and the Alexandria civic escort, under the order of Capt. James Carson, dressed in blue, with sashes of the same color, to the line of the corporation. Here the troops formed in line, consisting of the battalion of marines, the several volunteer companies from Washington and Georgetown, and the Alexandria battalion amounting altogether to about 1500 men, handsomely dressed, received him with presented arms, the officers in front. The appearance of the line was grand. The General's entrance upon the field was greeted with a salute of artillery from the Washington company, commanded by Capt. Burch, and music from two fine bands. After the General had alighted, he was met by the committee of arrangements, on behalf of the corporation, and welcomed to our town. After the ceremony of introduction was passed, the General returned to the barouche, the troops were wheeled into open columns of

march, and, the procession being formed, was conducted in the following order:

Marshal. Marshal.

Squadron of Cavalry, under Capt. Andrews.

Artillery.

Marshal.

Marine Corps, under Capt. Broome.

Marshal.

The whole column of Uniform Companies, consisting of the Washington, Georgetown, and Alexandria troops, under command of Cols. Thompson, Doughty, and Minor.

Marshal.

Committee of Arrangements, in two carriages.

Aid. Aid.

Major Wm. F. Thornton, Chief Marshal.

A barouche drawn by four gray horses, in which were

Marshal. { General La Fayette and General Jones } Marshal.

The Officers of General Jones's Suite.

A carriage in which were George Washington La Fayette, George Washington Parke Custis, and Colonel La Vasseur.

A cart with the tent of Washington, decorated with branches of the oak and laurel, with the National Flag above.

Revolutionary Soldiers, in carriages.

Civic escort, under Doctor James Carson, attendant upon General La Fayette.

Judges and Officers of the Courts, in carriages.

Officers of the Militia of the District, and neighboring States, in uniform and mounted.

And the whole was closed with a cavalcade of citizens.

Marshal.

The congregation is reminded that the Rev. Mr. Burk is ready to answer all calls for pastoral service. His telephone number is 897D, Norristown.

History of the Valley Forge.

BY HENRY WOODMAN.

From Norristown Herald, July 10. 1850.
From the Bucks County Intelligencer.

LETTER VI.

Having promised my readers to give a more full detail of the unceremonious visit of the Hessians to my grandfather's family, I now enter upon that duty. When they saw them coming to the house there were several men sitting on seats at the front door, enough, at least, to have prevented their doing much damage, but thinking self-preservation the first law of nature they all fled in different directions, except my grandfather and his only son (the late Stephen Stephens, deceased, between four and five years since, a man since well known to many persons in this county), a lad then about thirteen years of age. They sat still to abide the consequences that might befall them. Among those who fled for safety was a chaplain to the American army, belonging to Mifflin's division, named William Rogers, a Baptist clergyman, and afterwards, for many years, professor of Rhetoric and Belles Letters in the University of Pennsylvania. Knowing that his dress would betray him as belonging to the army, he ran into the house, handed my mother his coat and a valuable gold watch to take care of until he should come back, then ran and hid himself under an open ended hogshead in the cellar, (as he many years after informed me). She took the watch and hastened with it upstairs, locked it up in a drawer, and took the coat to a bunch of bushes near the house and hid it among them.

When the Hessians arrived one of them seized my grandfather by the collar, drew his dagger and robbed him of a watch that was in his pocket and then proceeded into the house. His mother, an old woman, and who, from a paralytic stroke, was completely prostrated, both in mind and body and totally incapable of helping

herself, sat tied in an arm chair, (one that I think is still in possession of our family).

However disposed to treat other members of the family, if not with rudeness, it was far from civility and politeness, they each as they passed her took her affectionately by the hand, and in their broken language called her mother and appeared to reverence old age. They next proceeded upstairs and commenced breaking open the drawers and cupboards, rifling them of their contents and taking whatever they considered of sufficient value to carry off. The first thing of value that attracted their attention was the chaplain's watch which they secured and carried off in triumph; his coat remained unobserved in the bushes, and so might his watch if it had been placed in one of the pockets and hid with it, or have been left by him, as he was not discovered.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The regular monthly meeting of the Guild was held in the Parish House on July 6th. The attendance was not large, six members only being present. Miss Zinser's resignation was accepted with great regret. One new member, Mrs. S. Hamill Horne, of Wayne, Pa., was added to the list. The principal subject discussed was the proposed Parish organization. As usual the August meeting will be omitted; the next meeting will be the annual meeting held in the Parish House, Wednesday, September 7th, at which the election of officers occurs. All members are urged to be present.

During the month of June there were 264 admissions to the Museum, so our payment on account of the Marquee on July 1 was $23.76, being $26.40 less 10 per cent.

The admissions during July were 304, so our August payment was $27.36.

A VALLEY FORGE ORDERLY BOOK.

Printed by Courtesy of Its late Owner, Mr. George Clifford Thomas.

Head Quarters Valley Forge Jany. 24th 1778
Major Genl...Tomorrow..Marquess De La Fayette
Brigadier.....Poor
Field officers...Lt. Colo. Banner Major Stublefield
Major Brigade.....McCormick

Three days provisions to be Issued to the Troops on Mondays & four days provisions on Thursdays till further orders.

Head Qrs. Jany. 25th 1778..... Valley Forge.
Major Genl.....Tomorrow.....DeKalb
Brigadier.....Paterson
Field officers.....Colo. Bicker Major Porter
Brigade Major.....McGowin

No officer is Subject to be Tryed by a Brigade Court Martial unless he Consents thereto which Is to be noted in the proceedings of the Court.—As tis necessary the Muster Rolls should be Accurately made & by One form the officers are to Make them out agreeable to the form Given them For that purpose by the Mustering officers—At a Brigade Court martial whereof Lieut. Colo. Ballard was president. Held Jany. 10th Capt. Zane of the 13th Virginia Regiement, Tryed for Acting in a Couarly Manner when sent on a Scouting Party (12th Decr. last) by ordering his men to Retreat when he had Considerable Advantage over the Enemy found Guilty & Lieut. Sugurs of the German Battalion Tryed by a Brigade Court Martial for Challenging Lieut. Laudurmilk of the same Battalion is found Guilty of the 7th Section of the Articles of War & therefore sentenced to be Cashiered.—The Commander in Chief Approves the Sentence but In Consideration of the Recommendation of the Court is Pleased again to Restore him to his Rank hopeing at the same time that his Linety in this and some other particular Instances, will not be Considered into His giving Countenance not only directly Repugnant To Our own Articles of war But discouraged by all Military Nations as subversive of good order discipline & Harmony.—

Division Orders Jany. 26th 1778.

A Court Martial of the Division to set Tomorrow at Nine OClock to Try such prisoners as shall be Brought before them. Colo. Tupper President, two Capts. 4 Subs. from Genl. Learneds & 2 Capts. and 4 Subs. from Genl. Patersons Brigade to set where the President Shall direct.—Lieut. Sewell is Appointed Judge Advocate.

In speaking of the gift of the valuable collection of Indian relics presented by Mr. Green and Mr. Fox the latter's name was incorrectly given. It should be Mr. William Lynd Fox, of Radnor.

Miss Frances B. Lovell, who has so generously loaned the Washington Flag to the Museum, has presented a colored lithograph of "Washington's Reception by the Ladies on passing the Bridge at Trenton, N. J., April 1789." This was published by N. Currier in 1845, and is in excellent condition. It is in the original frame. To the Library Miss Lowell has given a copy of the "Biographical Memoirs || of the || Illustrious || General George Washington, || late President of the United States of || America, || and || Commander in Chief of their Armies, during the || Revolutionary War. || Dedicated to the Youth of America. || From Sidney's Press, || for I. Cooke & Co., Book-sellers, N. Haven, || 1809."

Evacuation Day passed without the dedication of any new memorials at the Chapel. For five successive years, from 1905 to 1909 inclusive, a bay in the Cloister of the Colonies was dedicated on this anniversary day, but no State was ready to erect one this year. On Evacuation Day, 1903, our corner-stone was laid and in 1904 President Roosevelt made the address. This year the 19th fell on Sunday, and the Rev. Norman V. Lewis, Rector of the Church of the Incarnation, Philadelphia, preached the anniversary sermon. The offering was added to our building fund.

Valley Forge Museum of American History.

The Misses Henniss, of Norristown, have given to the Museum the musket and cartridge box carried by their brother, Sergeant Charles M. Henniss, of Company A, 51st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He re-enlisted at Blaines Cross Roads, Tenn., January 1, 1864, after serving for three years, holding the rank of corporal. The following certificate by Capt. Bolton gives a part of the history of the musket and cartridge box as it does the soldier who carried them: "I hereby certify on honor that Corp. Charles M. Henniss was engaged in the following actions, viz.: Roanoke Island, N. C., February 8th, 1862; Newbern, N. C., March 14th, 1862; Camden N. C., April 19th, 1862; Bull Run, Va., August 29th and 30th, 1862; Chantilly, Va., September 1st, 1862; South Mountain, Md., September 14th, 1862; Antietam, Md., September 17th, 1862; Skirmish at Sulphur Springs, Va., November 13th, 1862; Fredericksburg, Va., December 13th, 1862; Vicksburg, Miss., July 4th, 1863; Jackson, Miss., July 17th, 1863; East Tenessee, October 21st to December 31st, 1863. Jos. K. Bolton, Capt., Comd. g Co. A."

Mr. Charles E. Holstein, of Bridgeport, has presented the musket picked up at Harper's Ferry by Mr. William H. Holstein of "Red Hill Farm." Mr. Holstein also gave to the Library the following books: "A Life of George Washington in Latin prose, by Francis Glass, A. M., of Ohio. Edited by J. N. Reynolds. New York, 1835." "History of the 51st Regiment of P. V. and V. V., from its organization at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, Pa., in 1861 to its being mustered out of the United States service at Alexandria, Va., July 27th, 1865. By Thomas H. Parker, late Captain Co. I, 51st P. V. V. Philadelphia, 1869."

Mr. William E. Montague, an enthusiastic collector, has presented a fine Apache water jar, made of woven grass and lined with resin. The handles for

the straps are made of horse hair. Mr. Montague has also given one of the old sickles used in harvesting.

Miss Maud Miller, of Norristown, has added to our Civil War collection one of the interesting hand grenades, with its paper guides.

Miss Eleanor Stroud, of Norristown, has given a cameo bracelet 75 years old, a Civil War daguerreotype, several United States coins, and a volume from the library of George Mason, the author of the Bill of Rights. This is a volume of Livy, and contains the famous patriot's signature.

Through Mr. David H. Hallman, Mr. Frank Megowen, of Bridgeport, has given a flint lock musket and bayonet. It is a Springfield musket, made in 1813, and bears on the barrel the official stamp of approval, V plainly visible, the P very faint. The gun, which is in excellent order, was owned by Mr. Megowen's grandfather, Mr. Anderson, who lived on the McMenamin place, Valley Forge.

Mr. Abraham Sloan, of Port Kennedy, has given two brass pistol barrels, from pistols used in the War of 1812. The pistols were kept for a long time in the cellar, where the dampness rotted the stocks.

Mr. H. Stanley Hittell, of Port Kennedy, has placed on exhibition a small cannon ball, which he found on the Valley Forge camp ground, and two bullets taken from the wounds received by Randolph Hittell in the Civil War.

Miss Lizzie M. Moore, of Norristown, has given a large tortoise shell comb, about one hundred years old, and an ink well owned by her grandfather and made at even an earlier date than the comb.

Miss Katherine C. Corson has given a large framed lithograph of the Battle of Gettysburg, showing the position of the troops on the days of the engagement. It was made by J. B. Bachelder and published for Endicott & Co., New York.

Miss Lydia West, of Norristown, has given the following Colonial notes: Maryland, one dollar, 1774, 3027 and 7679; Pennsylvania, four pence, or a groat, 1775, 14726, and six pence, 1775, 14726.

Miss Hettie B. Sisler has the honor of giving the first sampler to the Museum. It was made by her mother, Mary Jane Davis, in 1830. She was then a girl of sixteen, and her home was the old camp farm at Valley Forge. Her father was born in 1790 on the I. Heston Todd farm. His father "was captured by some British scouts near Valley Forge, and regained his freedom by giving them a jug of matheglin."

The sampler is a beautiful piece of needle work, and in an excellent state of preservation. It is 17½ x 16½ inches.

The following lines are worked in the center of the sampler:

"Behold, Oh youth, this scene and see
What nature's God hath given thee
With wonder view his great designs
In which superior wisdom shines
Revere his name admire his love
And raise thy thoughts to worlds above
Mary Jane Davis.
1830

Our second sampler was given by Miss Anna C. Weber, and is much older. It was made by her grandmother, Charlotte Casselberry Weber, in her ninth year. She was born May 9, 1795, and died April 19, 1886. The sampler is therefore 106 years old. It contains two alphabets, and numerals and the words, A. D. 18— aged 9r. It is small, being only 6½ x 8 inches.

Miss Weber has also given two interesting old plates.

Miss Hannah P. Kirkbride has added to our china collection two plates. The first, bearing a quaint design, entitled "The Thrush," belonged to Hannah Paxson. The second was given to Elizabeth Saylor by her father on her marriage to Abram Heebner, July 1, 1823.